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TO: Honorable City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 

DATE: November 13, 2023

RE: City Council Redistricting - Two additional options and guidance for consideration of the proposed revised boundaries for the seven City Council districts.

On Tuesday, October the 31st, toward the conclusion of the Formal Session Your Honorable Body held a brief discussion of the Legislative Policy Division's (LPD) report and proposed maps addressing City Council Redistricting. As a result of the discussion a motion was passed, directing LPD to prepare two more redistricting map options for City Council consideration in addition to the three maps previously provided. Attached please find the requested maps for your review.

Also, at that time the Council requested that LPD provide guidance as to the process Council may want to undertake as it deliberates and moves toward the adoption of new City Council Districts.

GUIDANCE

With our submission of the two additional map options, the Council now has five total options to consider. We recommend your review and public socialization of these maps and any additional maps or variations that may be requested, from now through your return from recess. To aid in the socialization process, we suggest posting the maps and a corresponding narrative describing their preparation and the regulations that govern redistricting, to the City Council webpage. This

may best be done via a PowerPoint presentation. We also suggest that a representative of LPD participate in any formal presentation or engagement with the public initiated by the body or individual Council Members.

As the Council assesses the options we have provided, LPD will evaluate any request or suggestion relative to the maps as received via a Council Member's office. Our evaluation will be conducted consistent with the legal and practical parameters that govern the map preparation and the redistricting process. We recommend the elimination of any map option that the majority of Council determines infeasible to pursue. This elimination could be done both prior to your recess and upon your return in January. We further suggest the narrowing of your final selection down to one option, if possible, but no more than two, by January 16, 2024. That would then be followed by a public hearing and the subsequent selection and adoption of the new districts by January 30th.

MAP PREPARATION

As indicated in our previous report all optional maps have been prepared in an effort to present districts that are close in population, contiguous and compact as required by law. The population loss that the city has suffered is particularly evident in Districts 4 and 3, and to a lesser degree also in districts 5 and 6. By necessity, all districts are affected in order to bring the populations into balance in the proposed options we have prepared.

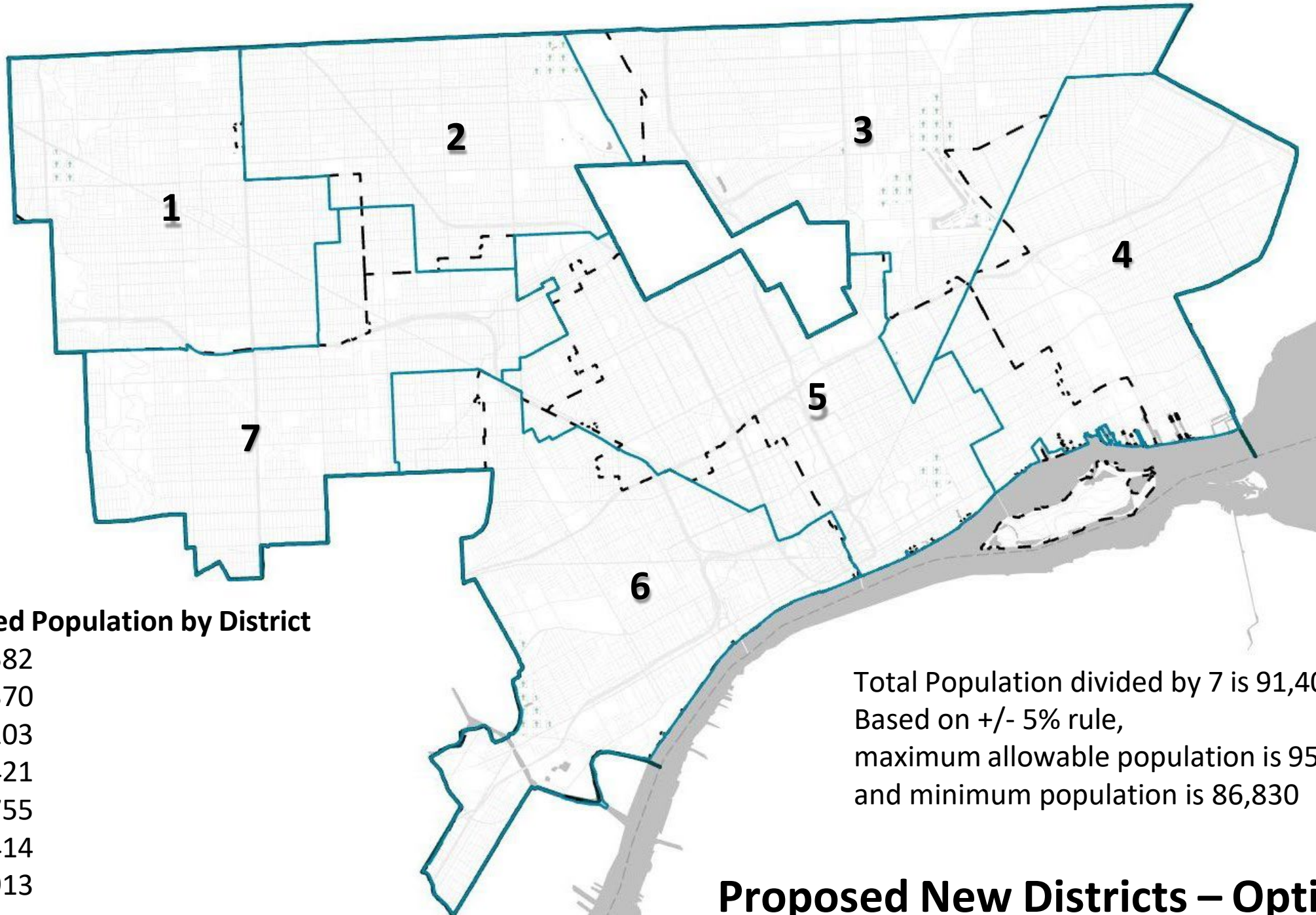
The proposed new district boundaries are based upon the newly adopted grid of voting precincts, just as the current districts were in 2012. The new precinct grid differs from the current, not only in terms of the related Census data, but in configuration, as there are now 50 less precincts to work with due to the merging of precincts, resulting from the City's changing demographics. There are now 400 precincts to work with and some of the current district boundary lines are no longer available, because the precincts that established them, no longer exist or have been redefined through consolidation with one or more abutting precincts.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Attachments: Two Additional Options

cc: Tonja Long, Law Department
Sharon Blackmon, Law Department
Adam Saxby, Law Department
Daniel Baxter, Elections
Greg Moots, PDD
Thomas Veldman, DoIT

simple



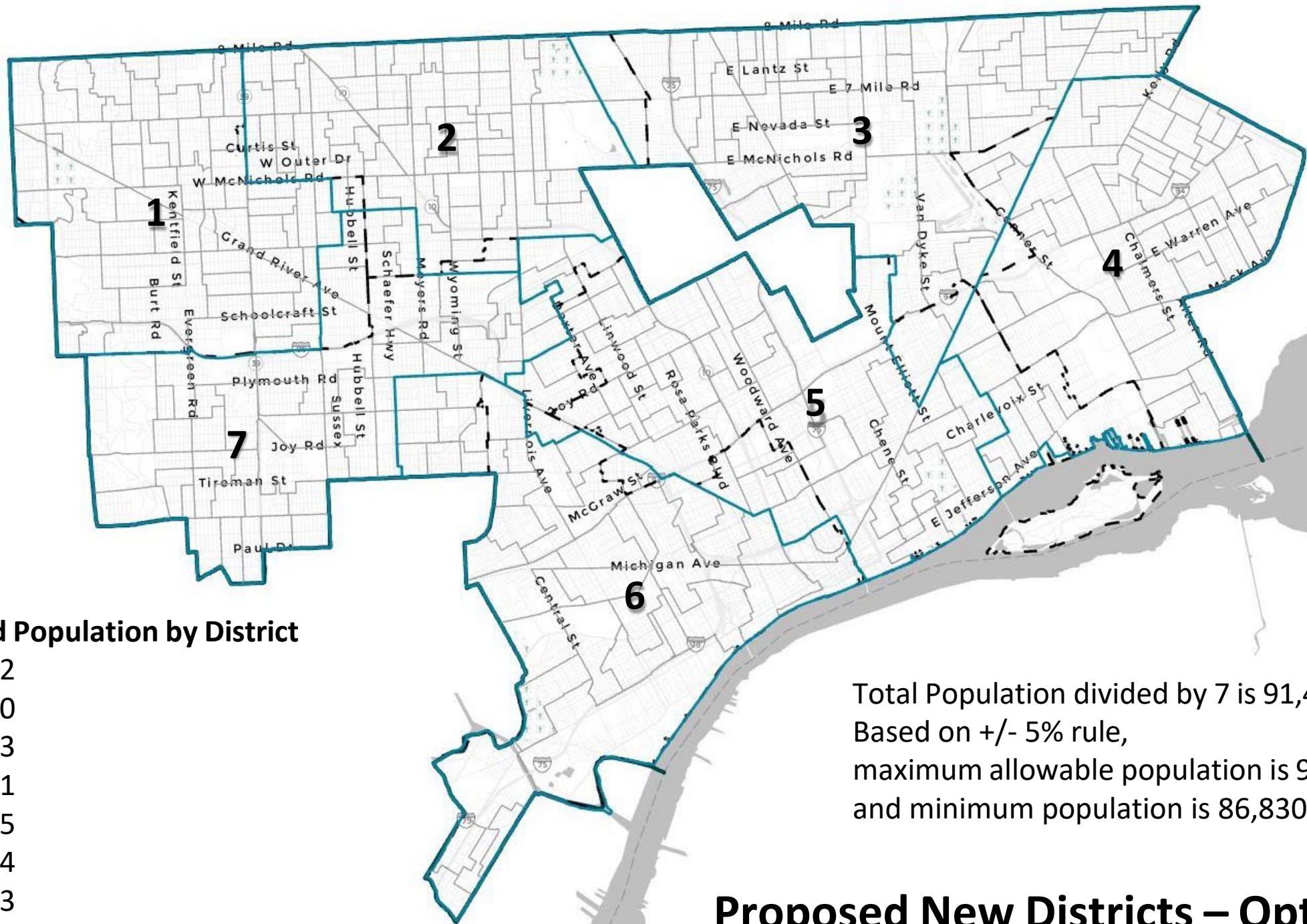
Proposed Population by District

- 1 – 91,582
- 2 – 91,370
- 3 – 90,103
- 4 – 90,421
- 5 – 91,755
- 6 – 91,414
- 7 – 91,913

Total Population divided by 7 is 91,400
Based on +/- 5% rule,
maximum allowable population is 95,970
and minimum population is 86,830

Proposed New Districts – Option 4

detail



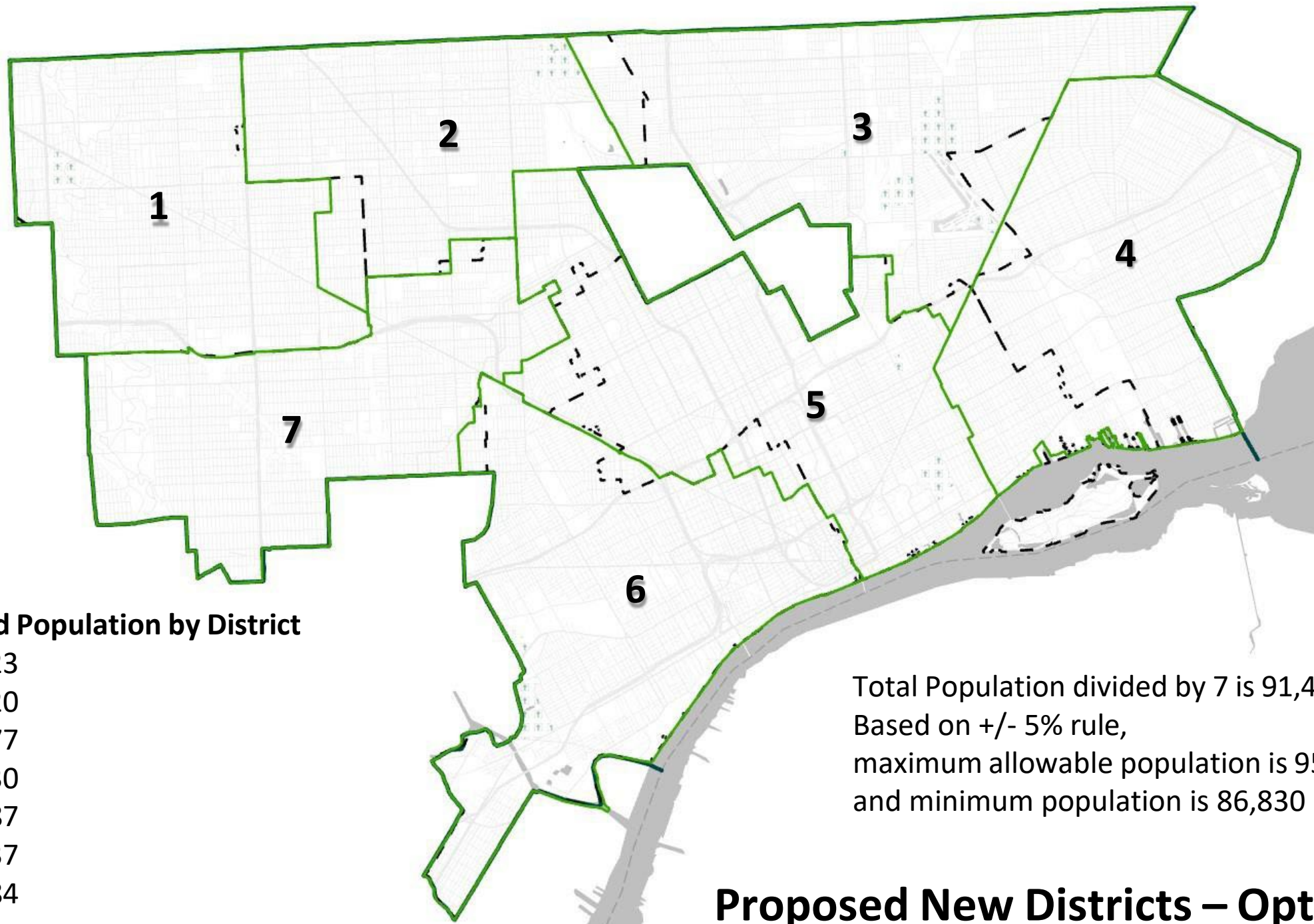
Proposed Population by District

- 1 – 91,582
- 2 – 91,370
- 3 – 90,103
- 4 – 90,421
- 5 – 91,755
- 6 – 91,414
- 7 – 91,913

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Proposed New Districts – Option 4

simple

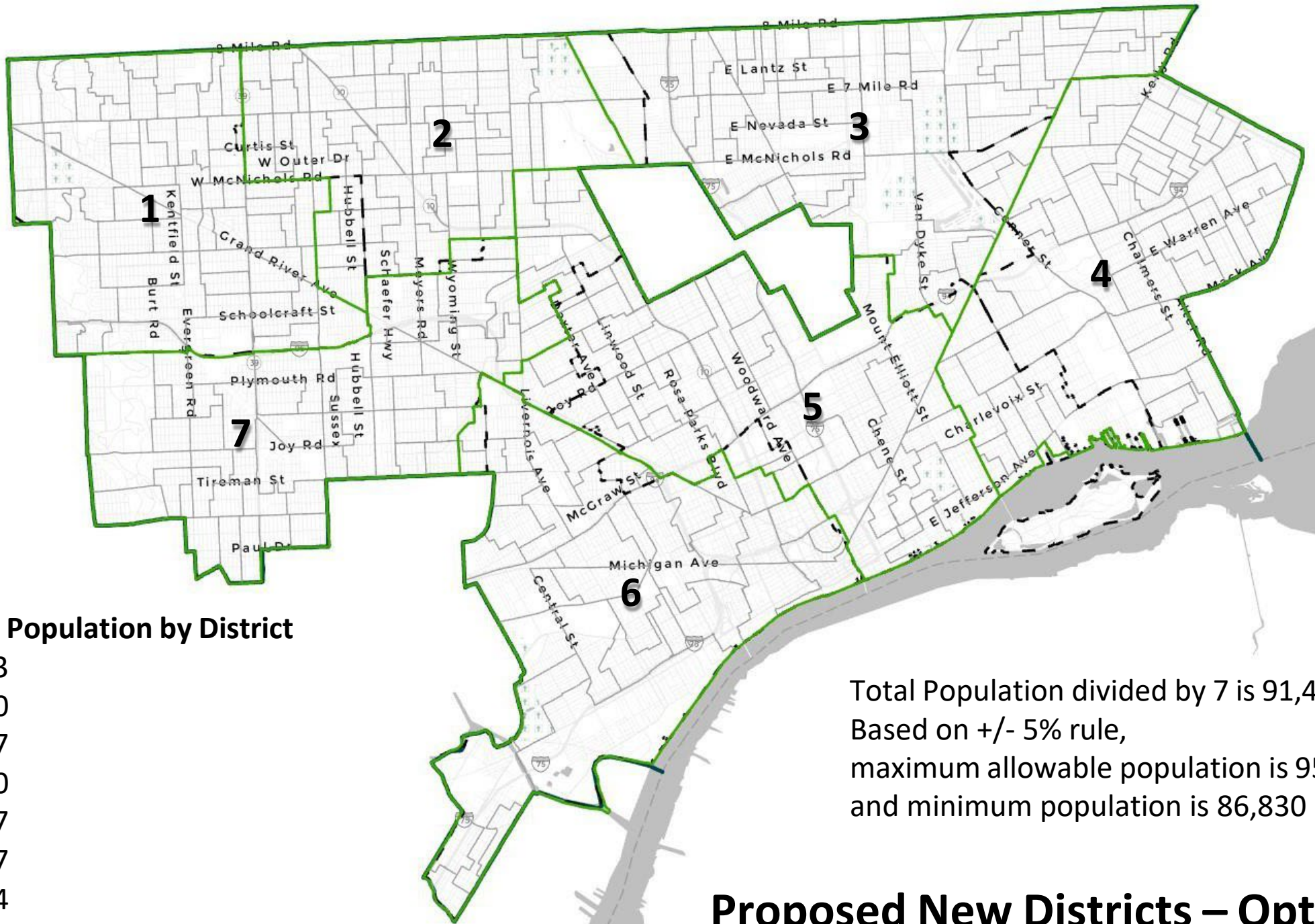


Proposed Population by District

- 1 – 91,823
- 2 – 94,920
- 3 – 89,177
- 4 – 92,230
- 5 – 88,687
- 6 – 90,537
- 7 – 91,184

Proposed New Districts – Option 5

detail



Proposed Population by District

- 1 – 91,823
- 2 – 94,920
- 3 – 89,177
- 4 – 92,230
- 5 – 88,687
- 6 – 90,537
- 7 – 91,184

Total Population divided by 7 is 91,400
Based on +/- 5% rule,
maximum allowable population is 95,970
and minimum population is 86,830

Proposed New Districts – Option 5